

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA/TUR:RSDILLON:CF

APPROVED BY NEA:JJSISCO

NEA - MR DAVIES

NEA - MR ATHERTON

S/S - WNEWLIN

NEA/IAI - MR STACKHOUSE

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P 190241Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207373

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, TU, IS

SUBJ: ISRAELI INTEREST IN USE OF TURK BASES

REF: ANKARA 8217

1. ISRAELI EMBASSY COUNSELOR DAVID TOURGEMAN CALLED ON NEA/TUR DIRECTOR DILLON OCTOBER 17 TO PROBE ON US USE OF TURKISH BASES IN RESUPPLY OPERATIONS TO ISRAEL. DILLON DESCRIBED TURKEY'S GENERAL STANCE AS ONE OF NEUTRALITY; DESCRIBED AKBIL'S PUBLIC STATEMENT (ANKARA 8051) ON USE OF JOINT BASES; AND AFFIRMED THAT PRIVATELY AS WELL AS PUBLICLY GOT HAS SAID IT DID NOT WISH BASES ON TURKISH SOIL USED IN SUPPLY OPERATIONS TO MIDDLE EAST.

2. TOURGEMAN ASKED IF DILLON THOUGHT GOT WOULD "WINK AT" US USE OF BASES, AND IF TURKS HAD ANY WAY OF KNOWING WHAT USE WE MADE OF BASES. DILLON REPLIED THAT ALTHOUGH CONFIDENTIAL

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OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO SPEAK DEFINITELY ABOUT ANOTHER GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE, HE BELIEVED GOT WAS QUITE SERIOUS AND MEANT WHAT IT SAID, PARTICULARLY AS OUR USE OF JOINT BASES FOR MIDEAST OPERATIONS HAD RELEVANCE

IN TURKISH EYES FOR SOVIET USE OF TURK AIRSPACE. FURTHER-MORE, AS BASES REALLY WERE "JOINT" WITH TURKISH PERSONNEL SHARING USE, THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF OUR USING BASES WITHOUT TURKISH KNOWLEDGE.

3. TOURGEMAN THEN ASKED IF SOVIETS WERE USING TURKISH AIRSPACE. DILLON REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SOVIET AIRLIFT WAS GOING DOWN THE ADRIATIC, ALTHOUGH CIVILIAN AEROFLOT FLIGHTS CONTINUED IN A NORMAL PATTERN ACROSS TURKEY. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION TOURGEMAN SAID ISRAELI INFORMATION JIBED WITH OURS.

4. TOURGEMAN WHEN ASKED IF WE HAD HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE TURKS EITHER ABOUT USE OF BASES, OR SOVIET OVER-FLIGHTS. DILLON SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN EXCHANGES IN ANKARA WHICH MADE IT CLEAR TO THE TURKS THAT WHILE WE RESPECTED THEIR DESIRE TO STAY NEUTRAL, WE CERTAINLY EXPECTED SOME INHIBITIONS ON THE SOVIETS THEY EXPECTED OF US, E.G., NO USE OF TURKISH AIRSPACE FOR SOVIET MILITARY SUPPLY OPERATIONS TO MIDDLE EAST.

5. SUBSEQUENT TO CONVERSATION DESCRIBED ABOVE U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT REPORTER TELEPHONED NEA/TUR "TO CHECK REPORT SOVIETS USING TURKISH AIRSPACE." WE REPLIED THAT THEY WERE NOT. KISSINGER

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